



BURLINGTON VEHICLE FOR HIRE LICENSING BOARD
BUSHOR CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL, 149 CHURCH ST. BURLINGTON, VT 05401
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 12, 2024

Members present: Paul Hines
Stephen Hamlin
Youness Jamil
Also present: Tenzin Chokden
Scot Barker, Chief Innovative Officer

Meeting start time: 5:32 PM

1. Agenda

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

Stephen Hamlin made a motion to approve. Youness Jamil seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1. Previous Minutes

Stephen Hamlin made a motion to accept the previous minutes. Youness Jamil seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. Public Forum

No members of the public spoke.

4. Update from Chief Innovative Officer on Curb

4.1. Future options for taxi metering and dispatch

Scot Barker, the Chief Innovation Officer of the City of Burlington, addressed the Vehicle for Hire Licensing Board to share insights gathered from Curb.

Curb is a technology company that provides services for taxi drivers, including digital meters, payment processing, and dispatch systems. They have a large customer base of 100,000 drivers and 20 million riders per month.

Key features and benefits of Curb:

- **Digital meters:** Provides accurate and efficient fare calculation.
- **In-car payments:** Allows for convenient payment options like tap, swipe, or QR code.
- **Dispatch system:** Offers centralized management of driver and passenger requests.
- **Cost-effective:** Provides competitive pricing for services like credit card processing and digital meters.

Potential challenges and considerations:

- **Minimum transaction volume:** There may be a minimum number of credit card transactions required to qualify for the lowest processing rates.
- **Additional fees:** If individual drivers don't meet the minimum transaction volume, they may incur extra charges.

Overall, Curb presents a comprehensive solution for taxi drivers, offering various features to improve efficiency and convenience.

Youness jamil asked how it works. If you have Curb, do you have to sign in? And if a customer has the QR code and wants to call you directly, can they bypass the dispatcher?

Scot replied whoever is logged in when a customer scans a QR code can accept the fare. If you're not working, you won't be logged in.

Youness Jamil asked how it works if a customer at the airport wants a ride from the airport to downtown.

Scot replied passengers should go to the airport queue to request a taxi instead of using the Curb app. We may need to work with Curb to prevent direct requests. A temporary taxi stand could be set up if needed.

Stephen Hamlin asked if the Curb application has the ability for customers to a schedule a ride.

Scot Barker believes that ride scheduling could be done using a QR code or phone call. However, he will verify this information.

Paul Hines discussed the potential cost of a monthly fee for drivers, which they estimate to be between \$30 and \$50. He suggests that more research is needed to determine the exact amount.

Youness Jamil believes that a \$30 monthly fee for drivers is reasonable as long as there is sufficient traffic and business for them to earn income. He believes that many drivers will be willing to pay this fee to avoid waiting in long lines at the airport for fares. He believes that a meeting with all drivers and a representative from Curb could be beneficial in encouraging the adoption of this new technology.

Scot Barker agreed and will schedule a meeting with Curb for October.

Tenzin Chokden will confirm with the City Attorney whether the Curb presentation would be considered an official Vehicle for Hire meeting or just an event

5. New Business

The next meeting is set for 10/23/24 at 5:30 PM.

6. Adjournment

6.1. Motion to adjourn

Stephen Hamlin motioned to adjourn. Youness Jamil seconded. Unanimously approved.